DEC 19 2006 B DEC 19 2006 B Docket No.: 057454-0093

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## **PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Shinichi KOBAYASHI, et al.

Confirmation Number: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: 09/843,165

Group Art Unit: 2818

Filed: April 27, 2001

Examiner: Vu Anh Le

For: ELECTRICALLY PROGRAMMABLE AND ERASABLE NONVOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE AND OPERATION METHOD THEREFOR

## FOURTH STATUS INQUIRY

Mail Stop Status Inquiry Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The above-identified application was filed on April 27, 2001. Since more than five years have elapsed since that date, and no action has been received by attorney for applicant, and further no response has been received to the Status Inquiries filed September 27, 2004, May 20, 2005, June 27, 2005, and April 20, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests that the undersigned attorney be informed of the status of the referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Please recognize our Customer No. 20277

Gene Z. Rubinson

Registration No. 33,351

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Date: December 14, 2006

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